

Fastman

A meme often refers to an internet image which is copied from person to person and over time tweaked and edited until it is something unrelated to the original image. Memes that go “viral” on the internet are usually either good, or interesting memes.

The fastman meme originated from a community on the internet known as /r/onenag. /r/onebag was an internet community about living out of a backpack, but not in the woods or on trails. It was originally intended to be an anticonsumer movement. As the community grew, the community became about travelling the world while living out of a backpack.

The original author of the /r/onebag community stepped down from the leadership of that online forum. Many years later they began the development of a similar concept called the fastman meme. This is unrelated to the commercial product, Fastman. The fastman meme was given this name unintentionally by the internet community.

The fastman meme is composed of a series of ideas which are thought to best benefit the reader of the meme. The ideas are intended to be expressed in as small of an image as is reasonably possible.

The original fastman meme tends to contain ideas to:

- Escape systems of control
- Be aware of the minimum things to pack a bugout bag.
- Master computer science
- Save money
- Contact aliens
- And more.

Eventually the viewers of those memes were intended to make their own variations on the meme which contained different ideas than the original meme.

The fastman meme is an image format called an “info bomb” which gives the viewer as much useful information as possible. It is an image composed of a collage of many images with some accompanying text.

Fastman: v5.6-stable

Wow what a fast guy I bet he can travel anywhere quickly to code and play minecraft on the go...



* this lady does not actually endorse fastman.



Fig 1. The most popular version of fastman.

This is an older version of the fastman meme but it checks out to many of the ideas and themes that the original fastman stood for. It contains some information which is no longer useful such as the aes 256 encryption protocol which is now defunct.

To explain this meme starting in the top left corner is a photograph of a cosplayer dressed in a costume of the anime character Asuka Soryu Langley. She is present in this image for two reasons. The first is that

Asuka is widely considered by Japan to be the best anime character to marry. The second is that the photograph serves as free advertisement of the meme to men scrolling past the meme. It is a very eye grabbing image.

To the right we see an image of a fastman character and some assorted gear that at minimum he should carry with him at all times. First of all he is expected to bring several changes of a quickdry baselayer of clothing such as a tracksuit. Around his neck he should wear a clear quartz crystal often referred to as a jo crystal. In future versions of the fastman meme the crystal is accompanied with a jedi masterkey referred to on the internet as a “space dildo.”



Fig 2. jedi masterkey

The fastman character in this image wears crocs, but these were later rejected by the community to be an inferior shoe for the purpose. They were later replaced with quickdry machine washable watershoes to avoid having to pack socks. Not packing socks meant saving weight and packing space.

The fastman character carries a librebootable thinkpad and charging cable running linux and capable of playing the game minecraft.

He carries jet stream pepper spray in order to defensively protect himself from criminals.

Although he is not expected to carry a calculator, the hp15c is a superior calculator and is represented in this meme.

The character carries a smartphone and a passport. He also carries a sleeping bag and an emergency bedroll. He carries some toiletries for hygiene. Finally, he carries a backpack to contain these things.

This list of possessions was an early attempt in the development of fastman to represent some basic gear that anyone should carry with them in an emergency backpack or bugout bag.

In the middle left of the meme are some technologies intended to improve one's own mastery of computers and to escape from technological systems of control. Decentralized finance is shown as a means to avoid the digital ownership of one's money by a third party. AES 256 used to be the strongest form of encryption available to the public. There is a warning about piracy instructing the user to avoid the pirate bay and the criminals who torrent there. SICP or "the wizard book" is a text that explains the gist of how programming languages work using Lisp and the anonymously typed lambda calculus. C is the best high level replacement for assembly with fine controls over the computer and vast libraries of software to write software with. Awk is a language for quickly writing disposable one line programs. Emacs is an IDE or integrated development environment which gives the user powerful controls and automation tools and includes software tools and manuals that help master the computer. Nonguix is a package manager and Linux system. SQLite is superior to the C function fopen and served as a local database with a SQL syntax.

In the bottom left of the meme there are two books, the Tao Te Ching and the Dhammapada. These are the central books of Taoist and Buddhist philosophy and offer the reader mental clarity and spiritual enlightenment. To the right of the books are some foods which would be healthy for the fastman character to eat. Broccoli Beef is a good meal for bodybuilding. Oatmeal is a superior food to cereal which is part of breakfast predating the invention of cereal and granola: a healthier alternative to breakfast cereal. Fast food is included in the meme as a joke as fast food is not healthy and is intended as a treat or a cheap emergency food.

The fastman character is intended to supplement their diet with a multivitamin and fish oil. They are intended to drink only water to save money and be healthier.

Finally, bodyweight fitness is a way to improve the health of the fastman character without having to add extra gear to the emergency bag.

It is evident from the latter description that one fastman image can contain a lot of information and cover a wide range of ideas.

Many attempts have been made to improve upon this meme but this one stands as the most popular version.

Many versions of the fastman meme exist for example one exists which solely consists of financial advice and has nothing to do with emergency bags or computers.

An info bomb can contain nearly any kind of information within it, and the fastman meme is an info bomb designed with a few key categorized topics in mind.

Here is a more recent version of the fastman meme containing only the most minimum emergency gear necessary for survival.



Sat, Jun 03



Fri, Jun 02



fig 3. Modern fastman gear

This gear is a simplified version of the gear that the original author of the fastman meme lives with every day and has been tested in real life. A water bottle such as an aquafina bottle can be attained easily and reused for free or cheap water refills in town. Dawn dish soap, or dr bronners if available can in a pinch be used to wash the body and hair, wash dishes, and even hand wash ones clothes. Cardboard is readily available in recycling containers such as dumpsters. Several layers of cardboard offer thermal insulation and padding from the ground, and fold up into a small lightweight bundle. Most places which sell food offer plastic silverware, but some do not which is why a spork is useful. The scrubba dry bag is water resistant it will keep ones clothing dry. It can be filled with water and soap to hand wash ones clothes. It also has a nozzle so that it can be used as a portable shower bag. Quickdry machine washable water shoes offer the benefit of sock and shoes in one item and are easy to wash by hand. A mixed reality headset or a smartphone offer versatile mobile computing. A quickdry jumpsuit is cool enough to wear in the summer, good as a baselayer in the winter, and can be easily washed by hand. A wearsble sleeping bag with a hood can be machine washable and water reistant to offer some limited protection from rain and the elements. A hair braid can be used if a hair cutting tool is not present.

With just this gear and an income source it is possible to survive indefinitely near a town.

Based on research on prices on alibaba, such a bag could be produced for \$51 USD per bag.

6:45 5G+ 56% •

File Edit Options Buffers Tools Help

```
drybag backpack shower $3.62
cardboard sleeping pad $0
down wearable sleeping bag water resistsnt $12
quickdry romper $3.80
reusable aquafina bottle $0
quickry shoesocks $1.55
spork $0.10
tracphone $29.88
```

prices based on bulk prices on alibaba

total cost per unit \$50.95

total cost per 8 billion units \$407.6 billion

it costs less than half a trillion dollars to give
every person on earth a onebag

-UU-----F1 onebag list All L16 (Fundamental) ---
Wrote /data/data/com.termux/files/home/onebag list

ESC	/	-	HOME	↑	END	PGUP
←	CTRL	ALT	←	↓	→	PGDN

◀ ◉ □

fig 4. Logistical economics of fastman gear

Such a small loadout is designed to be able to be lived off permanently with the intent of debloating ones life, being prepared for anything, producing less harmful plastic waste, and starving corporations of profits from mindless consumerism.